

COMMITTEE REPORT

COMMITTEE: Finance, Tax & Budgets
CHAIRPERSON: John Creighton, Chairman
DATE/TIME: September 23, 2003 7:00 p.m.

PRESENT:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Berlage	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hasken	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Schubert
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Carroll	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mapes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Schultz
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Creighton	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Potter	

Other Board members: Dick Alexander
Sally Toepfer

Others: Duane Olivier, County Administrator
Steve Allendorf, Sheriff
Jean Dimke, County Clerk/Recorder
Nancy Miller, Chief County Assessment Officer
Carol Soat, County Treasurer
Sharon Wand, Clerk of the Circuit Court

FY2004 Annual Budget.

a. General Fund budget update. John Creighton comment on the current deficit balance of approximately \$16,000 of currently estimated General Fund budget. This updated version of the estimated General Fund budget includes the revisions (attached) approved by the Committee at its September 9th meeting.

b. General Fund Department Budgets. The Committee reviewed the following General Fund department budget proposals:

- Courthouse
- County Board
- County Administrator
- County Treasurer
- Tax Extension
- County Clerk/Recorder
- Elections
- Assessment Office
- Board of Review
- Information & Communications Technology
- Miscellaneous
- Sheriff
- Safety Building
- Communications
- Court Security
- Emergency Services
- Merit Commission
- County Coroner
- Probation
- Circuit Court Clerk

States Attorney
Animal Control
Social & Environmental Services
Regional Superintendent of Schools
Economic Development & Planning
Zoning & Building Code Administration

Review of the proposed Courts budget was deferred until the meeting on October 1st so that a representative of the Courts can be present to answer questions.

Overtime pay was a special point of discussion, especially in the Sheriff's Office budgets which represents most of the overtime use in County departments. The County Administrator will prepare an analysis of budgeted overtime expenditures.

Other comments about the proposed FY2004 annual budget included:

A proposal by Sally Toepfer (attached) to reduce employee hours by limiting the hours that the Courthouse and other County officers would be open and/or changing employee work schedules to reduce hours worked but keep the Courthouse open on a regular schedule. In response to Sally's proposal: Peg Murphy commented on how the Health Department reduced work hours in the current fiscal year in response to budgetary concerns; Sharon Wand indicated that the Courts set their own schedule and could not be closed; and Nancy Miller said the her office does not have enough time now to complete its work. It was generally felt that the concept of changed Courthouse hours and employee work hours should be explored to determine what changes might be possible.

Dick Alexander stated that the Indemnity Fund should be eliminated and that the balance should be transferred to the General Fund to balance the General Fund.

Ron Mapes suggested that the group health insurance plan be review to determine what changes can be made to reduce future costs.

Marv Schultz said that all funds need to be considered before final decisions are made. Everyone should be treated fairly.

Finally, the County Administrator was asked to review all proposed General Fund budgets to determine if an additional \$20,000 in reductions could be found to "balance" the General Fund budget.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.